REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6-23, 25-34, 36-45, 47-55, 58 and 60-67 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-3, 6-23, 25-34, 36-45, 47-55, 58 and 60-67 have been rejected.

Claims 1, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 33, 34, 44, 45, 55, and 58 have been amended.

Claim 68 has been added. This claim is supported at least by p. 20, lines 27-30 of the Specification. No new matter has been added.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,763,384 issued to Gupta et al. ("Gupta"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As discussed in more detail below, Applicants respectfully submit that Gupta fails to teach each element of claim 22. For example, claim 22 has been amended to recite "the wait request is associated with the web browser, and the wait request is not a request for information from the web server." Applicants respectfully submit that Gupta fails to teach these features.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-3, 6-14, 16-17, 19-21, 23, 25-31, 33-34, 36-42, 44-45, 47-53, 55, 58, and 60-66 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gupta in view of U.S. Patent 6,694,352 issued to Omoigui et al. ("Omoigui"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

On page 7, the Office Action states that the claimed feature "causing the web browser to provide a wait request to the web server" is taught by the following passage of Gupta:

When the client process 110 is ready to receive messages, it registers itself with the notification server 30. The registration information required by the notification server 30 will comprise the identity of the client process 110 together with a receiving address identifier. The receiving address identifier could, for example, include an IP (Internet Protocol) address and port number, together with the protocol to be used.

Gupta, 5:49-56. Applicants respectfully submit that the above passage fails to teach the claimed feature "causing the web browser to provide a wait request to the web server". As noted in previous responses, Gupta also requires the client process to notify an application server which messages it wishes to receive. See, Gupta, 5:43-47. As Applicants have previously argued, Applicants' claims differ from Gupta in this respect. Gupta requires that a user request specific information, namely which messages, or updates the user wishes to receive, and Applicants do not.

The Office Action states on page 3 (¶ 6) that "references that request information teach the scope of the claims," because "the claim does not expressly provide language that limits the interpretation of the claims such that the web browser need not perform any request for information." In light of these remarks, and to further distinguish the claims from Gupta. Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 33, 34, 44, 45, 55, and 58 to clearly reflect that the wait request, which is provided by the browser, is not a request for information. Applicants' claims clearly reflect that the web browser does not need to request any information from the claimed web server in order to have an asynchronous message pushed to the web browser. Again, this is unlike Gupta, which requires a priori knowledge about what specific information is required, and requires that the information be specifically requested. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims are allowable over the cited reference and request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 33, 34, 44, 45, 55, and 58. Applicants also submit that dependent claims 2, 3, 6-14, 17, 25-31, 36-42, 47-53. and 60-66 are similarly allowable at least by virtue of depending from allowable base claims.

Claims 15, 18, 32, 43, 54, and 67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gupta and Omoigui in view of U.S. Patent 6,138,158 issued to Boyle et al. ("Boyle"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As discussed above, Gupta and Omoigui fail to teach each element of Applicants' independent claims. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 15, 18, 32, 43, 54, and 67 are allowable at least by virtue of depending from allowable base claims.

New Claim

Claim 68 has been added. Claim 68 recites that a persistent HTTP connection is established when a user logs in. When an asynchronous message is pushed to the browser, the connection is terminated. This claim is supported by, at least, page 20, lines 27-30 of the Specification. No new matter is added.

Applicants respectfully submit that these features are novel and patentable over the cited references. When the connection is closed, it is clear that in order to receive subsequent asynchronous messages, another wait request must be provided. See, e.g., Specification, p.20, 1.29. While Gupta does disclose opening and closing a connection, Gupta also makes clear that the user will continue to receive notifications until the user sends a message indicating the user is going off-line. See, Gupta 7:10-13 and 8:39-43. On the other hand, Applicants claim closing the connection in response to receiving an asynchronous message. No further message is required from the web browser to stop the pushing of asynchronous messages.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application and the claims therein are believed to be in condition for allowance without any further examination and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 512-439-5092.

If any extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) are required in order for this submission to be considered timely, Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions. Applicant also hereby authorizes that any fees due for such extensions or any other fee associated with this submission, as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17, be charged to deposit account 502306.

Respectfully submitted,

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